THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTl MEHTA): (a) and (b) The matter regarding metering of power connection was discussed among other things in the Power Ministers Conference held on 26.2.2000. The Conference resolved to undertake time bound programme of 100% metering of all consumers by December 2001.

(c) With a view to encourage State Electricity Boards to take up meter installation schemes, Power Finance Corporation (PFC) is providing financial assistance to utilities for installation of meter under relaxed conditions. Moreover, installation of meters are covered under Govt. of India's Accelerated Generation and Supply Programme and thereby attract an interest subsidy of 4% on PFC's disbursements during 9th Plan period. Financial assistance are sanctioned by the PFC to projects / shcemes based on detailed appraisal of the project loan proposal received from respective SEBs / Utility and the overall exposure limit to each entity.

(d) and (e) PFC has sanctioned a loan of Rs. 33.80 crores to APTRANSCO in January, 2000 for installation of 4.25 lakh meters to domestic consumers in Andhra Pradesh. Out of which a sum of Rs. 13.75 crores has been disbursed upto March, 2000.

Government Buildings near Feeder/High Intensity Power Lines

3477. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the detailed norms followed while allowing construction of Government buildings near feeder / high intensity power lines;

(b) the minimum horizontal / vertical distance to be maintained from such power lines, intensity-wise;

(c) whether Government are aware of the construction of Government hospital under 400 KV DeharPanipat line of BBMB in Himachal Pradesh;

(d) the details of the representation/privilege notices received by Government in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken to demolish such impending disastrous buildings and to fix responsibility against the officials responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRTMATI JAYAWANTl MEHTA): (a) and (b) The provisions of Rule 79 of the Indian

Electricity Rules 1956, as amended from time to time, deal with the clearances from buildings of low and medium voltage lines and service lines. The provisions of Rule 80 of the said Rules deal with the clearances from buildings of high and extra-high voltage lines. The text of the provisions of the Rules 79 and 80 are given in Statement *(See* below).

(c) The Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) under whose 400 KV Dehar-Panipat line the concerned Government hospital building has been constructed, have confirmed the following after site inspection:—

(i) That the hospital building at Village Nichla Nagal, Tehsil Nalagarh, Distt. Solan of Himachal Pradesh has been constructed much after commisioning of 400 KV Dehar Panipat Line and the construction work of the building stands completed.

(ii) That the horizontal clearance of about 35 feet is maintained between the hospital building and the 400KV Power Line.

(iii) That the minimum horizontal / vertical clearance as per the requirement of Indian Electricity Rules has been maintained by the concerned authorities after completion of the building.

(d) and (e) In his Notice for privilege in relation to answer given to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2094 dated 13.12.1999, the Hon'ble Member relied upon a newspaper advertisement of Delhi Vidyut Board published in a Hindi Daily and stated, *inter-alia,* that minumum horizontal distance of a construction even in the cases of low intensity feeder line of 66 KV should be atleast 3.8 mtrs. (45 feet approx.) and enquired as to how the distance of 35 feet
from the high intensity 400 KV power lines is not a violation of the rule. In reply to the notice, it has *inter-alia,* been clarified that the distance of 3.8 metres works out to be equivalent to 12.47 feet (1 metre!3.28084 feet) and not 45 feet indicated by the Hon'ble Member.

In view of the concerns expressed, Central Electricity Authority has been advised to review the position in the light of international norms.

Statement

Provisions of Rule 79 and 80 of Indian Electricity Rules, 1956

79. Clearances from buildings of low and medium voltage lines and service lines: (!) Where a low or medium voltage overhead lines passes above

or adjacent to or terminates on any building, the following minimum clearance from any accessible point, on the basis of maximum sag, shall be observed:—

(a) for any flat roof, open balcony, verandah roof and lean-to-roof—

(i) when the line passes above the building a vertical clearance of 2.5 metres from the highest point, and

(ii) when the line passes adjacent to the building a horizontal clearance of 1.2 metres from the nearest point, and

(b) for pitched roof—

(i) when the line passes above the building a vertical clearance of 2.5 metres immediately under the lines, and

(ii) when the line passes adjacent to the building a horizontal clearance of 1.2 metres

(2) Any conductor so situated as to have a clearance less than that specified in sub rule (1) shall be adequately insulated and shall be attached at suitable intervals to a bare earthed bearer wire having a breaking strength of not less than 350 kg.

(3) The horizontal clearance shall be measured when the line is at a maximum deflection from the vertical due to wind pressure.

(Explanation—For the purpose of this rule, expression building shall be deemed to include any structure, whether permanent or temporary)

80. Clearance from buildings of high and extra-high voltage lines.— (1) Where a high or extra-high voltage over-head line passes above or adjacent to any building or part of a building it shall have on the basis of maximum sag a vertical clearance above the highest part of the building immediately under such line, of not less than—

(a)	for high voltage lines up to and including 33,000 volts	3.7 metres
(b)	for extra high voltage lines	3.7 metres plus 0.30 metre for every additional 33,000 volts or part thereof.

(2) The horizontal clearance between the nearest conductor and any part of such building shall, on the basis of maximum deflection due to wind pressure, be not less than—

(a)	for high voltage lines .upto and including 11000 volts....	1.2 metres
(b)	for high voltage lines above 1.1,000 volts and upto and including 33,000 volts...	2.0 metres
(c)	for extra high voltage lines....	2.0 metres plus 0.3 metre for every additional 33,000 volts or part thereof.

(Explanation—for the purpose of this rule expression building shall be deemed to include any structure, whether permanent or temporary)

Steps to Meet the Power Shortage in A.P.

3478. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State of Andhra Pradesh is facing shortage of power;

(b) if so, the actual requirement of power in the State;

(c) how many villages are still unelectrified alongwith the detais thereof, district-wise; and

(d) what steps are being taken to meet the power shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The power supply position in Andhra Pradesh during 1999-2000 was as under:—

	Energy (MU net)		Peak (MW Net)
Requirement	45835	peak Demand	7209
Availability	42832	peak met	6366
Shortage	3003	deficit	843
Percentage	6.6%	percentage	11.7%